

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /057 W
-----063342 172253Z /70

O R 172129Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8816
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ
AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, EC
SUBJECT: ELECTION RESULT UPDATE -- DURAN SECURING SECOND

REF: QUITO 4891

1. UNOFFICIAL FIGURES AS OF 1300 HOURS, JULY 17 COVER
1,535,836 VOTES OR APPROXIMATELY 85 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL.
BREAKDOWN AMONG CANDIDATES, WITH PERCENTAGE OF VOTE IN
PARENTHESIS, AS FOLLOWS:

ROLDOS	434,411	(30.8 PERCENT)
DURAN	314,564	(22.33 PERCENT)
HUERTA	302,145	(21.45 PERCENT)
BORJA	159,943	(11.35 PERCENT)
CALDERON	125,029	(8.8 PERCENT)
MAUGE	75,092	(5.1 PERCENT)

THERE WERE 66,637 NULL VOTES AND 51,029 BLANK BALLOTS
(7.66 PERCENT OF TOTAL). NOTE: PERCENTAGES ARE BASED
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ON TOTAL VALID VOTES, E.G., GRAND TOTAL MINUS BLANKS AND
NULLS.)

2. WITH SUCH A SMALL PERCENTAGE LEFT TO BE COUNTED, IT
IS UNLIKELY THAT RAUL CLEMENTE HUERTA CAN OVERCOME
SIXTO DURAN'S ONE PERCENTAGE POINT LEAD FOR SECOND PLACE.
ALTHOUGH DETAILED PROVINCIAL RESULTS ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE,

SLOWEST PROVINCES TO REPORT APPEAR TO BE MANABI AND EL ORO. HUERTA IS LEADING IN MANABI -- IT IS HIS BEST PROVINCE -- BUT NOT BY SUCH A MARGIN THAT FURTHER VOTES FROM THERE WILL MAKE A CRITICAL DIFFERENCE. THE VERY PRELIMINARY PROVINCIAL BREAK-DOWNS THAT ARE AVAILABLE, INDICATE THAT ROLDOS IS WINNING OR CLOSE IN EL ORO, GUAYAS, LOS RIOS, CANAR, COTOPAXI, CHIMBORAZO, THE ORIENTE AND GALAPAGOS; DURAN IS HEAD, OR IN COMPETITION IN EL ORO, AZUAY, BOLIVAR, COTOPAXI, IMBABURA, LOJA AND TUNGURAHUA; AND HUERTA IS AHEAD OR IN COMPETITION IN EL ORO, MANABI, ESMERALDAS, CARCHI AND LOJA. BORJA WON IN PICHINCHA, AS EXPECTED.

3. JAIME ROLDOS HAS BEEN INTERVIEWED ON SEVERAL T.V. STATIONS TODAY. HE HAS EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN HIS ABILITY TO WIN THE SECOND ROUND AND, ALTHOUGH HE WOULD NOT DETAIL STRATEGY FOR COLLECTING VOTES FROM DEFEATED CANDIDATES, SAID THAT THE CFP/DP COALITION WOULD GO OUTSIDE ITS RANKS TO SEEK PEOPLE TO SERVE IN HIS ADMINISTRATION. HE EMPHASIZED THAT A ROLDOS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ONE SEEKING SOCIAL CHANGE, BUT APACE WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. HE SAID IT WOULD BE A GOVERNMENT OF CONCILIATION WHICH WOULD ATTEMPT TO HEAL THE DIVISIONS NOW AFFECTING ECUADOREAN SOCIETY. HE SAID THAT NO GROUP SHOULD FEAR A CFP/DP GOVERNMENT BECAUSE HE AND OSVALDO HURTADO HAD MADE A GREAT EFFORT TO PUBLICIZE AND DISCUSS THEIR PLATFORM. THUS, EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW WHAT THEY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROPOSE, AND HE COULD FIND NO REASON WHY ANY ECUADOREAN WOULD OPPOSE THAT PROGRAM.

4. COMMENT: THE ABOVE FIGURES ARE TRANSMITTED WITH THE IMPORTANT CAVEAT THAT THEY REPRESENT UNOFFICIAL FIGURES CULLED BY THE PRESS AND THE GOE'S INFORMATION SERVICE FROM A NUMBER OF SOURCES. THE OBSTACLES FACED BY THE PRESS IN TRYING TO COME UP WITH CONCRETE FIGURES ARE ILLUSTRATED BY THE SITUATION IN GUAYAS. OUTRAGED MEDIA REPS REPORT THAT THE GUAYAS ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL HAS CLOSED DOWN FOR THE DAY WITH THE EXPLANATION THAT THEY HAD WORKED ALL NIGHT AND NEEDED REST. THIS WAS LITTLE CONSOLATION TO PRESS MEN WHO SIMILARLY HAD FOLLOWED EVENTS UNTIL THE INFORMATION SERVICE CLOSED DOWN AT 4:30 THIS MORNING. NONETHELESS, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THE UNOFFICIAL FIGURES REPRESENT QUITE ACCURATELY THE ACTUAL ELECTION RESULTS. CORR

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978QUITO04930
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780293-0636
Format: TEL
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780752/aaaabrsa.tel
Line Count: 111
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 06e67f72-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 QUITO 4891
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1985835
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ELECTION RESULT UPDATE -- DURAN SECURING SECOND
TAGS: PINT, EC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/06e67f72-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014